



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
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December 10, 2003

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Don Sloma, Executive Director

**RE: DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES MEDICAL
ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION STRATEGIC PLAN**

Background and Summary

The Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) within the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) is developing a strategic plan for the years 2006 to 2011. The crisis in publicly funded health care is overwhelming with little relief expected in the near term. Governor Locke and Secretary Braddock have determined effective planning is the best way to prepare for the challenges and uncertainties before us.

To begin their planning, MAA has developed these five guiding themes:

- 1. Improve our citizens' health by purchasing evidence-based health services,**
- 2. Allocate and maximize resources to achieve fiscal efficiency,**
- 3. Sufficiently invest in our human resources to ensure a competent, credible, and creative work force for the future,**
- 4. Integrate service delivery to improve access and service quality, and**
- 5. Align our actions with community partners and health providers.**

Bill Hagens, MAA's Strategic Planning Coordinator, is with us today to seek input from the Board as DSHS embarks upon this process. After a brief (10 minute) presentation, he will be seeking Board member suggestions on how best to pursue these themes within a public health framework. In addition, mailer forms will be available for audience use. A MAA Strategic Planning website has been established where further comments can be submitted and interested parties can go to track the entire DSHS/MAA strategic planning progress. It can be found at <http://imaa.dshs.wa.gov/Strategy/default.aspx>. MAA's deadline for response is January 30, 2003.

With the Board's input and that of other partners, MAA will refine responses into **goals** and **strategies** to make them **reality** and **measures** to evaluate their performance. A draft report will be available on the website in March for review and comment. Upon completion, MAA's plan will be compiled with those of other DSHS administrations to be submitted to the Governor for use in developing future budgets and legislation.

Recommended Board Action:

No action is recommended at this time. However, the Board may wish to direct staff to formalize comments it makes at today's hearing into a proposed letter to DSHS/MAA for review and approval by the Board at our January 2004 meeting.